Mr. President: I am now going to discourage the practice of discussion during question time. I must now insist upon the members to ask questions and not go on making statements and indulging in discussions giving explanations, etc.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* May I know whether the Government have examined this with reference to the suggestion by the members here that the price of cards must be reduced?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* We have examined it. I shall be giving details when the resolution is moved. It is found that our loss will be more than 1,500 rupees which the department cannot lose.

Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli):* Is not the Anchal Department working at a profit?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* It has to work at a profit.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* Does not the Travancore card cost 3½ pies?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* A little more than 3 pies.

ANCHAL RATES—REDUCTION OF

386. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will the Government be pleased to note.—

(*a*) the Anchal rate for a letter weighing over ½ tola and below 1 tola is one anna;

(*b*) whether the same rate of postage is charged for the postal envelope for the whole of India for the same weight;

(*c*) if the answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, whether the Government be pleased to note the reduction of this rate to 9 pies will not enhance the Anchal revenue;

(*d*) whether they have compared the postal rates for every additional tola for a letter weighing over one tola is only 6 pies when we charge for every additional 2½ tolas one anna for Anchal letters above 2½ tolas in weight;

(*e*) considering the limited area to which our Anchal articles can go, will the Government be pleased to reduce the Anchal rates generally for all articles

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especially to letters by adopting the rate for every additional tola or part of it over 1 tola to 3 pies?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The postal rate for a letter not exceeding 1 tola in weight is 1 anna.

(*c*) The reduction of the Anchal rate for letters not exceeding 1 tola in weight, from 1 anna to 9 pies, will adversely affect the Anchal revenue.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) No, as reduction in the Anchal rates will adversely affect the Anchal revenue.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* In view of the reply of the Government that we are competing with the British system the replies to sub-divisions (*b*) and (*c*) show that we do not compete with the British system. Is it not therefore better to reduce it?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* Our rates are much lower.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* In the matter of a letter weighing 1 tola it is the same as the British system?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* That is only with regard to letters weighing 1 tola. It is 1 anna up to $2\frac{1}{2}$ tolas. Above 1 tola they are levying half an anna more.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* We can have 4 pies more for every additional tola.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* If we reduce the rate will not poor people be writing more letters and will not the revenue be increased thereby?

AGRICULTURISTS' CREDIT FACILITIES INQUIRY COMMITTEE—REPORT—ORDERS ON

387. Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar *(Trippunittura):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the Committee appointed to consider the scheme of issuing credit bonds for the relief of agriculturist debtors have submitted their recommendations;

(*b*) if so, has the report been published; if not, why?

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